

Message Text

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12
ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CU-02 BIB-01 HEW-04 OIC-02 OES-06

CIEP-01 SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02 L-03 H-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 OMB-01 /085 W

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R 210800Z AUG 76
FM AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 405
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, PORG, UNESCO
SUBJECT: UNESCO NATIONAL COMMISSIONS MEETING IN SAVONLINNA

REF: STATE 204456-U, HELSINKI 1696-C

1. POLITICAL OFFICER, CANADIAN EMBASSY, INFORMED EMBOFF THIS WEEK THAT CANADIAN PARTICIPANT PREVIOUSLY SCHEDULED ATTEND SAVONLINNA CONFERENCE HAS NOW DECLINED. IN DISCUSSION OF WHETHER OR NOT PRESENCE OF CANADIAN EMBASSY REPRESENTATIVE FROM HELSINKI AS OBSERVER MIGHT BE APPROPRIATE, CONVERSTATION ENDED WITH RATHER FIRM DECISION THAT EVEN IN OBSERVER CAPACITY, REPRESENTATION WOULD NOT BE ADVISABLE. FINNS ARE MOST ANXIOUS FOR MORE WESTERN PRESENCE TO GIVE APPEARANCE OF EAST-WEST BALANCE; THEY MIGHT BE TEMPTED PUBLICIZE ANY WESTERN REPRESENTATION WITHOUT CLARIFICATION OF WHETHER PARTICIPANT OF OBSERVER STATUS.

2. FRENCH CULTURAL CENTER DIRECTOR CONFIRMED THIS WEEK THAT FOLLOWING DISCUSSIONS WITH FRENCH AMBASSADOR THEY HAVE MADE FIRM DECISION NOT TO SEND REPRESENTATIVE IN ANY CAPACITY. STILL NO DECISION FROM THE HAGUE WHETHER OR NOT OBSERVER FROM DUTCH EMBASSY IN HELSINKI
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WILL ATTEND. THE BELGIAN EMBASSY IS CONSIDERING SENDING

OBSERVER, BUT THEY STILL HAVE NO DECISION. THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE BRITISH COUNCIL IN HELSINKI IS STILL WILLING AND SEEMINGLY ANXIOUS TO ATTEND, BUT HE STILL HAS NOT RECEIVED EMBASSY GUIDANCE. THE DIRECTOR OF THE ITALIAN CULTURAL CENTER PROBABLY WILL ATTEND.

3. EMBASSY PRESUMES THAT LOCATION FOR FINNISH UNESCO NATCOM CONFERENCE TRANSFERRED FROM HELSINKI AS ORIGINALLY PLANNED TO SAVONLINNA DUE TO WORLD PEACE COUNCIL MEETING HELSINKI IN ORDER TO AVOID CONFUSION.

4. WHEN FINNS URGE EMBASSY ATTEND TO CORRECT IMBALANCE IN PARTICIPATION AT SAVONLINNA, EMBASSY OFFICIALS REPLY THAT CONFERENCE IS NONGOVERNMENTAL IN NATURE AND ALSO STRESS THAT THIS CONFERENCE IS NOT ACCORDING TO THE PRICIPLES OUTLINED IN CSCE FINAL ACT IN THAT ALL COUNTRIES HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO PARTICIPATE ON AN EQUAL BASIS IN PLANNING STAGES; I.E., INVITATION TO US WAS PRESENTED WITH A COMPLETE SCHEDULE OF PARTICIPANTS AND TOPICS WITH NO OPPORTUNITY FOR INPUT OR CHANGES.
AUSTAD

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, MEETING DELEGATIONS, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976HELSIN01755
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760320-1249
From: HELSINKI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760831/aaaabazt.tel
Line Count: 81
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 204456, 76 HELSINKI 1696
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16 APR 2004 by CollinP0>; APPROVED <19 APR 2004 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UNESCO NATIONAL COMMISSIONS MEETING IN SAVONLINNA
TAGS: PFOR, PORG, FI, CA, FR, UNESCO
To: STATE LONDON
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006